Southampton
Strategic Assessment
(JSNA)

Road safety page content

Last updated December 2025
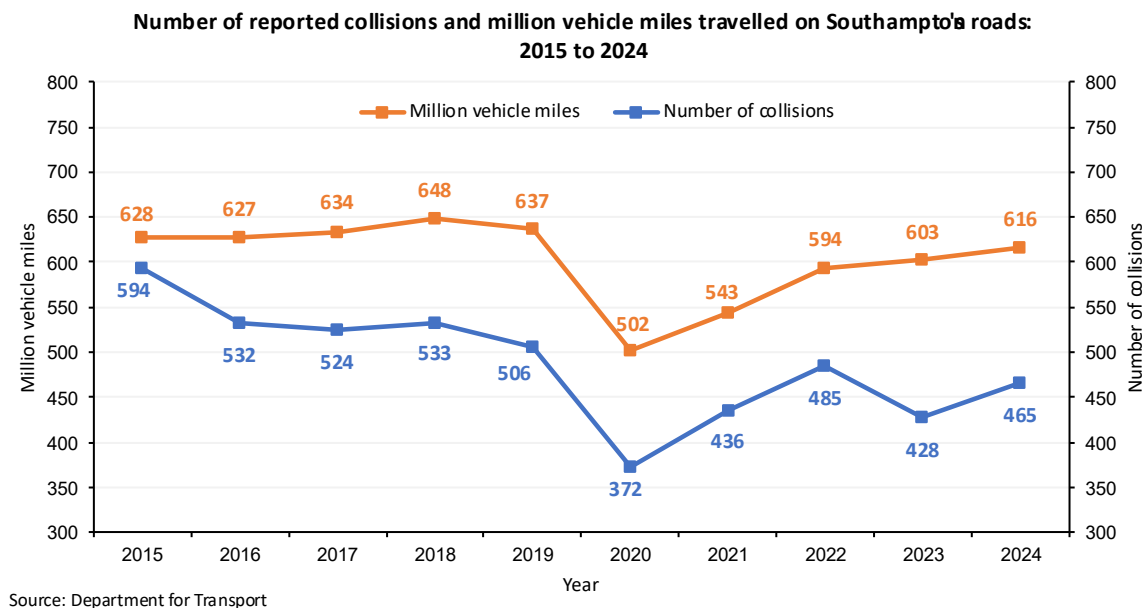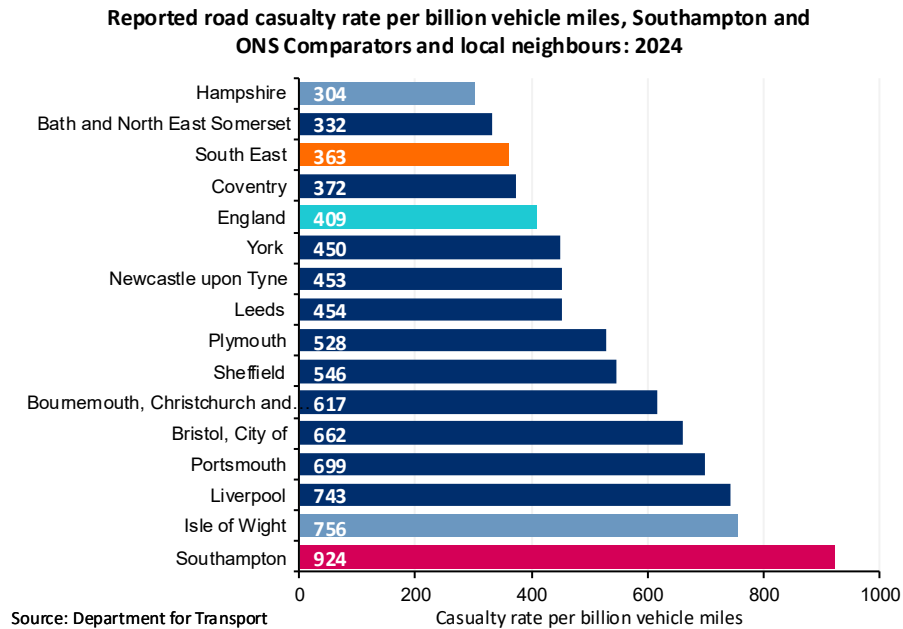
Contents

1. Road safety

Road traffic collisions (RTCs) are a major cause of preventable death and morbidity, particularly in younger age groups. A large proportion of road traffic collisions are preventable and can be avoided through improved education, awareness, road infrastructure and vehicle safety. All RTCs involving human death or personal injury occurring on a public highway and notified to the police within 30 days of occurrence are recorded using the STATS19 accident reporting form. There is no obligation or legal reason to report all personal injury collisions to the police, although STATS19 data is the best measure of collisions and casualties available. Some collision types are more likely to be underreported than others, for example pedal cyclist collisions with pedestrians. It should be noted that road safety data is subject to revisions by the Department for Transport; therefore, trend data may differ than previously presented.

Data monitored by the Department for Transport show that traffic on major roads in Southampton has experienced an overall increase since 2020. A higher volume of traffic generally increases the likelihood of collisions. In Southampton, the number of reported road injury collisions has remained fairly stable over the last few years; 2022 (485 collisions), 2023 (428 collisions) and 2024 (465 collisions).

Number of reported collisions and million vehicle miles travelled on Southampton's roads: 2015 to 2024

Source: Department for Transport

The reported road casualty rate per billion vehicle miles uses the total number of miles driven on the road network to adjust for differences in the amount of traffic. In 2024, Southampton experienced 924 casualties per billion vehicle miles travelled on its roads, an increase since 2023 (820). The road casualty rate in Southampton remains higher than the England rate (409) and is the highest among ONS comparators in 2024.

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In 2024, 568 people were recorded as being injured in road collisions on Southampton roads, a +14.7% increase from 2023. There was one fatal casualty from collisions that occurred in 2024.

Reported road casualty rate per billion vehicle miles, Southampton and ONS Comparators and local neighbours: 2024

Area	Rate
Hampshire	304
Bath and North East Somerset	332
South East	363
Coventry	372
England	409
York	450
Newcastle upon Tyne	453
Leeds	454
Plymouth	528
Sheffield	546
Bournemouth, Christchurch and.	617
Bristol, City of	662
Portsmouth	699
Liverpool	743
Isle of Wight	756
Southampton	924

Source: Department for Transport

Casualty rate per billion vehicle miles

A summary report and slide set produced as part of the 2024/25 Strategic Assessment are available to download below. For more information on crime in Southampton, see the Safe City Strategic Assessment page. The interactive community safety dashboard can be accessed using the link below.

2. Resources

2024/25 Safe City Strategic Assessment

The Southampton Safe City Strategic Assessment provides an overview of current and future crime, disorder and community safety issues affecting Southampton and makes recommendations to enable the Partnership to focus the Safe City Strategy and local delivery plans. The report and slide set that informed the assessment are available below to download. The interactive community safety dashboard can be accessed using the link below.

- 2024/25 Safe City Strategic Assessment Report
- 2024/25 Safe City Strategic Assessment Presentation
- Community Safety Dashboard

Archived assessments

This section contains archived reports from previous Safe City Strategic Assessments. For the latest report and data on crime and community safety in the city, see the Safe City Strategic Assessment above.

- 2023/24 Safe City Strategic Assessment
- 2022/23 Safe City Strategic Assessment
- 2021/22 Safe City Strategic Assessment
- 2020/21 Safe City Strategic Assessment
- 2019/20 Safe City Strategic Assessment
- 2018/19 Safe City Strategic Assessment
- 2017/18 Safe City Strategic Assessment
- 2016/17 Safe City Strategic Assessment
- 2015/16 Safe City Strategic Assessment
- 2014/15 Safe City Strategic Assessment

Department for Transport Dashboard

The Department for Transport (DfT) provide a publicly available dashboard that visualises the number of personal injury road traffic casualties in Great Britain that were reported by the police from 2018 using the STATS19 reporting system.

- DfT - interactive road casualty dashboard